

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended) A polyurethane elastomer comprising the product of the reaction of:

- a) at least one member selected from the group consisting of diisocyanate and polyisocyanate;
- b) at least one polyester polyol having an OH number of 20 to 280 and a functionality of 1.8 to 2.4, and optionally;
- c) at least one member selected from the group consisting of polyether polyol and polyether ester polyol, each having an OH number of 10 to 149 and a functionality of 2 to 8; and
- d) optionally at least one member selected from the group consisting of (i) chain extenders having molecular weights lower than 800, and (ii) crosslinking agents having OH numbers of 150 to 1870,

in the presence of

- e) at least one amine catalyst,
- f) at least one member selected from the group consisting of (i) an ester of a monobasic carboxylic acid, and (ii) an ester of a polybasic carboxylic acid, the (first) dissociation constant ( $pK$ ) of each being 0.5 to 4, said ester of said polybasic carboxylic acid (ii) containing a residue of a polybasic carboxylic acid selected from the group consisting of oxalic acid, malonic acid, maleic acid, fumaric acid, citric acid, phthalic acid, trimellitic acid and pyromellitic acid, and said ester of said polybasic carboxylic acid (ii) containing at least one residue of an alcohol selected from the group consisting of methanol, ethanol, n-

- propanol, iso-propanol, n-butanol, iso-butanol, tert.-butanol and phenol,
- g) optionally a foaming agent, and
- h) optionally at least one additive selected from the group consisting of emulsifiers, foam stabilizers, cell-size regulators, flame retardants, nucleating agents, antioxidants, internal lubricants, demolding agents, colorants, dispersing agents, pigments, reaction retarders, aging stabilizers, plasticizers, fungicides and antibacteria agents,

wherein the maximum ratio of the number of ester groups of f) to the number of amino groups of e) is 1.0.

2. (Previously Presented) The polyurethane elastomer of Claim 1 wherein a) is a prepolymeric reaction product of 4,4'-diphenylmethane diisocyanate and polyester polyol.

3. (Previously Presented) A molded article comprising the polyurethane elastomer of Claim 1.

4. (Previously Presented) A method comprising:

- (i) providing a reaction mixture according to Claim 1; and
- (ii) producing, from said reaction mixture, a molded article selected from the group consisting of a roller, an elastic element and a shoe sole.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Previously Presented) The polyurethane elastomer of Claim 1 wherein said ester of said monobasic carboxylic acid (i) contains a residue of a monobasic carboxylic acid selected from the group consisting of formic acid and  $\alpha$ -naphthoic

acid, and said ester of said monobasic carboxylic acid (i) contains a residue of an alcohol selected from the group consisting of methanol, ethanol, n-propanol, iso-propanol, n-butanol, iso-butanol, tert.-butanol and phenol.

7. (Currently Amended) The polyurethane elastomer of Claim 1 wherein ~~said ester of said polybasic carboxylic acid (ii)~~ said ester of said monobasic carboxylic acid (i) contains at least one residue of an alcohol selected from the group consisting of methanol, ethanol, n-propanol, iso-propanol, n- butanol, iso-butanol and tert.-butanol.

8. (Previously Presented) The polyurethane elastomer of Claim 7 wherein the polybasic carboxylic acid of ~~said ester of said polybasic carboxylic acid (ii)~~ is oxalic acid.

9. (Previously Presented) The polyurethane elastomer of Claim 1 wherein the ratio of the number of ester groups of f) to the number of amino groups of e) is from 0.5 to 0.8.